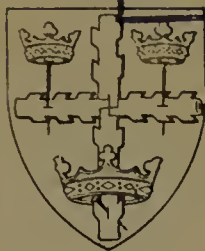


BOROUGH OF



COLCHESTER.

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

JOHN D. KERSHAW,

M.D., B.S., London; M.R.C.S., England; L.R.C.P., London,
D.P.H.

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH;

PORT MEDICAL OFFICER;

DIVISIONAL SCHOOL MEDICAL OFFICER;

AREA MEDICAL OFFICER;

CONSULTANT IN INFECTIOUS DISEASES, MYLAND
HOSPITAL, COLCHESTER.

1950.

Colchester:

WILES AND SON LTD., TRINITY STREET

for arch.
10/10/5

BOROUGH OF



COLCHESTER.

BOROUGH & PORT HEALTH COMMITTEE, 1950.

THE RIGHT WORSHIPFUL THE MAYOR,
COUNCILLOR J. ANDREWS.

Chairman:

ALDERMAN H. H. FISHER, J.P.

Deputy-Chairman:

COUNCILLOR C. T. MURPHY, M.R.C.V.S.

Members:

ALDERMAN MRS. R. L. BENSUSAN-BUTT, M.D.

COUNCILLOR MRS. R. M. JOSLIN.

COUNCILLOR R. J. HOWELL.

COUNCILLOR MISS K. E. SANDERS, R.R.C., J.P.

COUNCILLOR W. L. THOMAS.

COUNCILLOR REVD. P. H. WARWICK BAILEY.

THE HEALTH DEPARTMENT, 1950.

PART-TIME STAFF.

Medical Officer of Health, etc.:

JOHN D. KERSHAW, M.D., B.S.(Lond.), D.P.H.

Deputy Medical Officer of Health, etc.:

R. W. CUSHING, M.A., M.B., B.Ch.(Oxon.).

Assistant Medical Officer:

ELEANOR M. SINGER, M.Sc., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P. D.C.H.

Veterinary Surgeon:

C. T. MURPHY, M.R.C.V.S.

Public Analyst:

A. H. MITCHELL MUTER, F.I.C.

Chief Administrative Asst. and Laboratory Technician:

R. D. SARGEANT, A.C.C.S.

Chief Clerk:

H. T. PERCIVAL.

Clerks:

MISS B. ONN. B. C. BLOOMFIELD.

WHOLE-TIME STAFF.

Senior Sanitary Inspector:

*†L. H. ENGLAND.

Deputy Senior Sanitary Inspector:

†*O. R. WARNER.

Additional Sanitary Inspectors:

†*C. J. JACOBI. †*T. R. HICKS. †I. C. HAZELL

† Sanitary Inspector's Certificate.

* Meat Inspector's Certificate.

Clerks:

L. NICHOLLS. A. T. G. PEPPER.

Disinfectors:

H. EDWARDS.

Rat Operator:

T. E. CROWE.

HEALTH DEPARTMENT,
TRINITY STREET,
COLCHESTER.

4th September, 1951.

MR. MAYOR, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to present to you my report upon the health of the Borough of Colchester for the year 1950.

Our general position as shown by the vital statistics in the first part of the report is, on the whole, a satisfactory one.

An exception to this is the further decline in the birth rate to 14.5 compared with that for the whole country, which is 15.8.

The legitimate infant mortality rate has fallen to 21.9, almost reaching the record low figure which we were able to report in 1948, and as there were no illegitimate baby deaths the total rate is a record of 21.0.

Owing to the inclusions of deaths amongst the military population and an alteration in the basis upon which the death rate is calculated, the apparent rise in this figure is without significance. That the position continues to improve is shown by the increasing percentage dying at over 75 and by the record number dying at over 90.

No serious outbreaks of infectious disease occurred, though the number of cases of whooping-cough was twice that of the previous year.

That unsatisfactory housing conditions remain our most important problem is shown by a considerable number of defects found and remedied by the Sanitary Inspector's Department.

It has been possible to institute a much closer supervision of the catering establishments in the Authority's area, visits under this heading being increased five-fold.

I remain, Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

JOHN D. KERSHAW,
Medical Officer of Health, etc.

Report of the Medical Officer of Health for the year 1950.

A Report as directed by Circular 2/50 of the Ministry of Health.

STATISTICAL SUMMARY.

Population (R.G. Estimate) with Military	....	57,880
Area	....	12,020 acres
No. of inhabited houses	....	14,016
Rateable value	....	£385,664
Product of a penny rate	....	£1,526/2/5
Birth Rate (776 legitimate births, 35 illegitimate)		
	(Corrected)	14.5
	(Crude)	14.0
„ „ England and Wales	....	15.8
Death Rate per 1,000 of the population (corrected)		10.0
	(Crude)	10.3
„ „ England and Wales	....	11.6
Percentage of total deaths occurring in Public Institutions	....	37.5
Women dying in, or in consequence of, child-birth	....	1
Infantile mortality rate per 1,000 live births—		
Legitimate, 21.9. Illegitimate, nil. Total		21.0
Pulmonary Tuberculosis Death Rate	....	0.28
Other Tuberculosis Diseases Death Rate	....	0.034
Cancer Death Rate	....	1.46

DEATHS OF CIVILIAN RESIDENTS, 1950.

<i>Cause of Death.</i>			<i>M.</i>	<i>F.</i>	<i>Total.</i>
Respiratory Tuberculosis	....	....	9	7	16
Other Tuberculosis	....	....	1	1	2
Syphilitic Disease	....	....	2	—	2
Cancer, Stomach	....	....	8	7	15
„ Lung, Bronchus	....	....	10	2	12
„ Breast	....	....	—	8	8
„ Uterus	....	....	—	12	12
„ Other sites	....	....	23	25	48
Diabetes	....	....	2	1	3
Vascular Lesions, Nervous System	....	....	31	52	83
Coronary Disease, Angina	....	....	41	22	63
Hypertension with Heart Disease	....	....	14	13	27
Other Heart Disease	....	....	45	75	130
Other Circulatory Disease	....	....	8	16	24
Influenza	....	....	3	5	8
Pneumonia	....	....	9	4	13
Bronchitis	....	....	7	11	18
Other Respiratory Diseases	....	....	8	1	9
Ulcer of Stomach and Duodenum	....	....	3	2	5
Gastritis, Enteritis and Diarrhœa	....	....	1	—	1
Nephritis and Nephrosis	....	....	4	2	6
Hyperplasia of Prostate	....	....	6	—	6
Pregnancy, Childbirth, Abortion	....	....	—	1	1
Congenital Malformations	....	....	1	2	3
Other defined diseases	....	....	32	35	67
Motor Vehicle Accidents	....	....	2	2	4
All other Accidents	....	....	5	6	11
Suicide	....	....	4	3	7
			279	315	594

BIRTH AND DEATH RATES.

The Registrar-General has this year introduced a new factor, one by which a more accurate comparison can be made between other towns, in assessing the Birth Rate. He has raised the Death Rate factor from .91 to .97 so that the rates show very little difference between the crude and the corrected. Where last year the difference amounted to an integer exactly, it now records only 0.3. The Birth Rate factor is put at 1.04 and this raises our comparison rate by .5. In arriving at this factor sex and age distribution in various areas are studied.

**1950. DEATHS OF COLCHESTER RESIDENTS OVER 70 YEARS
OF AGE.**

	Aged 70 and under 80	Aged 80 and under 90	Aged 90 and over	Total
Male ...	84	56	8	148
Female ...	102	88	11'	201
Total ...	186	144	19	349

Four persons were aged 90, eight aged 91, two 93, one 94, three 95, and one male aged 97.

**BIRTH-RATES, DEATH-RATES, AND ANALYSIS OF
MORTALITY IN THE YEAR 1950.**

	England and Wales	126 C.Bs. and Great Towns including London	148 Smaller Towns Resident Pop. 25,000 to 50,000 at 1931 Census	London Adm. County	Colchester
	Rates per 1,000 Civilian Population				
Live Births	15.8	17.6	16.7	17.8	14.5
Still Births	0.37	0.45	0.38	0.36	0.36
Deaths—					
All Causes	11.6	12.3	11.6	11.8	10.0
Pneumonia	0.46	0.49	0.45	0.48	0.22
Whooping Cough ...	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01	—
Influenza	0.10	0.09	0.10	0.07	0.14
Tuberculosis	0.36	0.42	0.33	0.39	0.31
Acute Poliomyelitis and Polioencephalitis	0.02	0.02	0.02	0.01	—
	Rates per 1,000 Live Births:—				
Deaths under 1 year of age	29.8(a)	33.8	29.4	26.3	21
Deaths from Diarrhoea and Enteritis under 2 years of age ...	1.9	2.2	1.6	1.0	1.2

(a) Rates per thousand related live births.

— Signifies that there were no deaths.

LABORATORY, 1950.

Specimen and Examination.		Positive.	Negative.	Total.
Urine, abnormalities ....	....	21	274	295
Pigs' Spleen for Anthrax ....	....	—	1	1
Milk for T.B. ....	....	3	32	35
		<hr/> 24	<hr/> 307	<hr/> 331
Other work : Identification of worm in water (Gordinae or hair worm)				1

In addition 119 samples of water were bacteriologically examined, and one chemically.

	Samples.	Satisfactory.	Unsatisfactory.
Town Water Supply	96	94	2
Well water	16	6	10
Water from Bathing Pool	7	4	3
Water tested for presence of metals	3	—	3

The transference of the Ante-Natal Clinic resulted in a large drop in urine examinations.

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION CLINIC, 1950.

Under 5	Over 5 and under 15	Total
443	146	589

Total number of children re-immunised in Colchester = 301.

These figures are lower than those for the year 1949.

In North-East Essex 67.5% of the child population under 15 years is protected against this disease.

ESSEX COUNTY COUNCIL CLINICS AND TREATMENT CENTRES IN THE BOROUGH OF COLCHESTER.

(as in August, 1951).

Place	Days	Time
<i>Ante-Natal Clinic—</i>		
Combined Treatment Centre, East Car Park, Culver Street ...	Mondays, Tuesdays and Thursdays ...	} 2-4 p.m.
<i>Dental Clinic—</i>		
Combined Treatment Centre, East Car Park, Culver Street ...	Daily ...	} 9-5 p.m.
<i>Physiotherapy Clinic—</i>		
Combined Treatment Centre, East Car Park, Culver Street ...	Daily (except 1st & 3rd Thursdays)	} 9.30-5 p.m.
<i>Child Guidance Clinic—</i>		
Headgate Chapel Room, Chapel Street	Daily ...	9-5 p.m.
<i>Chest Clinic—</i>		
Rebow Chambers, Shewell Road ...	Daily ...	9-5 p.m.
<i>Speech Therapy Clinic—</i>		
Holy Trinity Parish Room, Eld Lane ...	Tuesdays and Thursdays	} 9-5 p.m.
<i>Diphtheria Immunisation Clinic—</i>		
Combined Treatment Centre ...	1st & 3rd Tuesdays	} 9.30 to 12 noon
<i>Birth Control Clinic |</i>		
Combined Treatment Centre ...	1st & 3rd Thursdays	{ 10-11.30 a.m.
<i>Infant Welfare Clinic—</i>		
Wimpole Rd. Wesleyan Schoolroom	Mondays ...	2-4 p.m.
St. Paul's Parish Hall, Colne Bank Avenue ...	Wednesdays ...	2-4 p.m.
Garrison Welfare Centre, near Military Hospital, Abbey Field	Thursdays ...	2-4 p.m.
Old Heath Chapel Hall ..	Thursdays ...	2-4 p.m.
Culver Street Combined Treat- ment Centre ...	Wednesdays and Fridays	} 2-4 p.m.
Lexden Parish Hall, London Road	Mondays ...	2-4 p.m.
St. John's Parish Hall, Ipswich Rd.	Tuesdays... ..	2-4 p.m.
Shrub End Egerton Green Institute, Corner of Gosbecks Road ...	2nd and 4th Tuesdays	} 2-4 p.m.
Harwich Rd. Congregational Hall	1st & 3rd Tuesdays	2-4 p.m.

NURSING HOMES.

No changes occurred. General and surgical beds available are 11, and maternity 8.

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

Notifiable Diseases (other than Tuberculosis) during the Year 1950.

(Civilian and Military Cases.)

Disease	Total Cases Notified	Total Cases in Age Groups											Cases admitted to Hospital	
		Under 1 Year	1	2	3	4	5-9	10-14	15-19	20-34	35-44	45-64		65 and over
Paratyphoid														
Fever...	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	1	—	3
Diphtheria ...	2	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	2
Scarlet Fever ...	103	—	4	7	8	18	55	7	3	—	—	1	—	25
Acute														
Poliomyelitis...	4	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	2	—	—	—	—	4
Puerperal Pyrexia	6	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	5	1	—	—	5
Pneumonia ...	27	1	—	—	—	2	2	—	—	3	3	7	9	—
Erysipelas ...	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	2	—
Ophthalmia														
Neonatorum...	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Dysentery ...	18	—	—	1	—	5	11	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Measles ...	361	3	36	43	52	48	65	8	1	3	1	1	—	—
Whooping Cough	143	5	10	17	22	32	54	2	—	—	—	1	—	—
Epidemic														
Jaundice...	17	—	—	—	—	—	7	2	—	1	1	3	3	—
Food Poisoning...	2	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

FOOD POISONING.

Two notifications of cases of Food Poisoning were received during the year, and no large outbreak in or around the town was reported.

Tuberculosis.

Age Periods		New Cases				Deaths			
		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
		M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Under 1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
1	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
2-4	...	...	1	1	...	...	1	...	...
5-9	...	1	...	2	...	...	...	...	...
10-14	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
15-19	...	6	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
20-24	...	9	1	1	...	...	1	...	...
25-34	...	27	5	1	...	...	1	...	...
35-44	...	6	1	...	2	2	2	...	1
45-54	...	8	2	...	...	5	...	1	...
55-64	...	6	...	...	...	1	1	...	...
65 and upwards...	...	2	1	...	...	1	1	...	...
Totals	...	68	11	5	2	9	7	1	1

The percentage of cases that have died of Tuberculosis during the past four years, without having been previously notified, were:—

1947	1948	1949	1950
26.6%	17.4%	11.8%	27.7%

Tuberculosis Register.

		1946	1947	1948	1949	1950
Pulmonary Cases	....	197	204	218	242	255
Other Forms of Tuberculosis		91	92	99	104	85

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

The Layer Road drainage sewer consisting of 42in. and 39in. concrete tubes with a total length of 740 yards was completed at a cost of £20,700. In addition further drainage works proceeded on the Shrub End Housing Estate involving the construction of 27in., 24in., 12in., 9in., and 6in. diameter sewers totalling an approximate length of 1,500 yards.

Three new Cesspools were authorised to be built by the Borough Engineer's Department during the year, and one was done away with.

Water.

The consumption per head per day, including water supplied to the Military, was 41.33 gallons. The length of pumping distribution mains is 99.001 miles. Details of water supply remain as in report for 1944. There are 516 metered supplies of water.

Refuse Collection.

The work of house and trade refuse collection has proceeded smoothly throughout the year and a weekly collection service of refuse and salvage has been maintained. Five new refuse collection vehicles have been purchased during the year.

Refuse Disposal.

Refuse is disposed of by controlled tipping at the Stanway Refuse Disposal Depot. Tipping in layers to a depth of 6 feet is practiced and all refuse is covered with soil to a minimum depth of 9 inches at the end of each day, with a final minimum covering of 18 inches.

Street Cleansing.

Street cleansing operations have been carried out, using manual labour and a Mechanical Sprinkler Sweeper-Collector.

All street gullies in the borough were emptied and cleansed at least three times during the past year.

Salvage.

Intensification of the Salvage Campaign was carried out, particularly with regard to recovery of waste paper.

SANITARY INSPECTION.

General Summary of Work carried out by Sanitary Inspector's Department under Public Health Acts, Housing Acts, By-laws, etc.

Defects found	....	....	2,064
Defects remedied	....	....	2,888
Factories and Workshops inspected	....	....	109

Housing.

Sinks, Waste Pipes, etc., provided or renewed	27
Floors or walls or ceilings repaired	441
Doors or windows provided or repaired	395
Ovens or firegrates repaired or renewed	68
Stairs repaired	41
Rooms cleansed	163
Roofs repaired (including rain-pipes and gutters)	225
Chimneys repaired or renewed	32
Damp houses remedied	46
Yards paved or repaired	23
Other housing repairs	67

Drainage.

Repairs and improvements	203
Water Closets provided or repaired	223
Cess-pools :—abolished (1), provided (-), repaired (-)	1

Other Sanitary Work.

Under Factories Act	41
Under Food and Drugs Act	662
Houses disinfected	23
Clothing and other articles disinfected	4,490
Well water sampled	43
Mains supply provided	23
Dustbins provided	276
Re-visits in connection with Sanitary Notices	4,580
Offensive accumulations removed	6
Pig-keeping nuisances abated	1
Matters referred to other Departments	27
Other nuisances or matters attended to	98

FACTORIES ACT, 1937.

Prescribed particulars on the administration of the Factories Act, 1937.

PART I OF THE ACT

—**INSPECTIONS** for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors)

Premises	Number on Register	Number of		
		Inspections	Written notices	Occupiers prosecuted
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	41	6	—	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority ...	230	103	6	—
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises) ...	—	—	—	—
TOTAL ...	271	109	6	—

—CASES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE FOUND

Particulars	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	Referred To H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector	
Lack of cleanliness (S.1) ...	—	—	—	—	—
Overcrowding (S. 2) ...	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	—	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation (S. 4) ...	—	—	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	—	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)					
(a) insufficient ...	3	5	—	—	—
(b) unsuitable or defective ..	5	3	—	—	—
(c) not separate for sexes ...	1	1	—	—	—
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork) ...	2	—	2	—	—
TOTAL ...	11	9	2	—	—

PART VIII OF THE ACT

OUTWORK

(Sections 110 and 111)

Nature of Work	Section 110			Section 111		
	No. of out-workers in August list required by Sect. 110 (1) (c)	No. of cases of default in sending lists to the Council	No. of prosecutions for failure to supply lists	No. of instances of work in unwholesome places	Notices served	Prosecutions
Wearing { Making, etc.	110	—	—	—	—	—
apparel { Cleaning and washing .	5	—	—	—	—	—
Household linen	—	—	—	—	—	—
Lace, lace curtains and nets...	—	—	—	—	—	—
Curtains and furniture hangings ...	—	—	—	—	—	—
Furniture and upholstery	3	—	—	—	—	—
Electro-plate	—	—	—	—	—	—
File making	—	—	—	—	—	—
Brass and brass articles	—	—	—	—	—	—
Fur pulling	—	—	—	—	—	—
Iron and steel cables and chains ...	—	—	—	—	—	—
Iron and steel anchors and grapnels	—	—	—	—	—	—
Cart gear	—	—	—	—	—	—
Locks, latches and keys	—	—	—	—	—	—
Umbrellas, etc.	—	—	—	—	—	—
Artificial flowers	—	—	—	—	—	—
Nets, other than wire nets	—	—	—	—	—	—
Tents	—	—	—	—	—	—
Sacks	—	—	—	—	—	—
Racquet and tennis balls	—	—	—	—	—	—
Paper bags	—	—	—	—	—	—
The making of boxes or other receptacles or parts thereof made wholly or partially of paper	—	—	—	—	—	—
Brush making... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pea picking	—	—	—	—	—	—
Feather sorting	—	—	—	—	—	—
Carding, etc., of buttons	—	—	—	—	—	—
Stuffed toys	—	—	—	—	—	—
Basket making	—	—	—	—	—	—
Chocolates and sweetmeats	—	—	—	—	—	—
Cosaques, Christmas crackers, Christmas stockings, etc.	—	—	—	—	—	—
Textile weaving	—	—	—	—	—	—
Lampshades	—	—	—	—	—	—
TOTAL ...	118	—	—	—	—	—

OFFENSIVE TRADES AND KNACKER'S YARD.

	Number.	Inspections.
But Scraper	1	7
Tallow Melter	1	5
Tag, Bone and Skin Dealer	6	5
Bone Boiler	1	5
Tripe „	2	4
Total	11	26
Horse Slaughterer	1	5

These occupations have been carried out satisfactorily and no complaints have been received during the year.

COMMON LODGING HOUSE.

There is one Common Lodging House in the Borough providing accommodation for 27 lodgers. Inspections have been carried out at varying times and cleansing and maintenance have been attended to satisfactorily.

Additional sanitary accommodation and clothes washing facilities have been provided during the year.

ERADICATION OF BED BUGS.

Dwelling Houses Infested—Council 11, Others 30	....	41
„ „ Disinfested—Council 11, Others 30	....	41
Rooms in these—Infested and Disinfested	....	128

In addition 8 dwelling houses, including 5 Council, were treated for the eradication of fleas.

RATS AND MICE.

During the year 3,860 inspections and re-inspections were made by the Rodent Operator and 587 premises were freed.

Three hundred and forty-seven complaints of rat infestation were received and dealt with. Six informal notices were served.

No. of rats known to have been killed	....	1,089
No. of mice known to have been killed	....	163

The number of requests for assistance again shows an increase over the numbers for previous years. This may, I think, be attributed to the fact that the existence of the Council's service is becoming more widely known, rather than to any untoward increase in the number of infestations.

The public sewers, excluding the Southern Outfall System, were treated twice during the year. The method adopted was to test bait approximately 15% of the manholes on the sewers subjected to treatment and to place poison in those manholes where takes of bait had been recorded. Seventy-eight manholes were poison baited as a result of the first treatment and 100 as a result of the second treatment.

HOUSING.

Statistics for the Year 1950.

New Houses completed—271.

Hutment Conversions—18.

I.—*Inspection.*

Number of dwelling-houses inspected	....	944
Number of dwelling-houses found to be unfit for human habitation	....	1

Number of dwelling-houses found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	645
---	------	-----

II.—Number of defective houses rendered fit by Informal Action	803
--	------	-----

III.—*Action under Statutory Powers.*

Under Sects. 9, 10 and 16, Housing Act, 1936—

Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served for repairs	-
---	------	---

Number rendered fit—

(a) By owners	-
---------------	------	---

(b) By Local Authority in default	-
-----------------------------------	------	---

Under Public Health Acts—

Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served for repairs	191
---	------	-----

Number complied with—

(a) By owners	129
---------------	------	-----

(b) By Local Authority in default	11
-----------------------------------	------	----

C. Proceedings under Sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936—

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made	1
---	------	---

(2) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders	2
--	------	---

D. Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936

....	-
------	------	---

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

During the year considerable work was carried out in connection with the supervision of catering establishments and food premises generally. Altogether 537 visits were made to hotel and restaurant kitchens and 33 visits to canteens.

Inspections of other food premises are shown in the following table:—

Premises	Number	Inspections
Slaughter-houses	see note below	327
Bakehouses 30 }	31	80
„ Underground 1)	31	172
Dairies and Milk Shops	—	135
Provisions	15	184
Fish Shops—Wet	21	285
„ „ —Fried	43	570
Butchers' Shops		

The use of private slaughter houses is still discontinued.

Table showing repairs or improvements carried out at Food Premises:—

Constant hot water supply provided	....	....	72
Handbasins or sinks provided	....	....	19
Coppers provided	....	....	7
Towels	....	....	6
Walls—decorated or cleansed	....	....	107
„ rendered or tiled	....	....	9
Ceilings—new	....	....	6
„ decorated or cleansed	....	....	107
Floors—new	....	....	8
„ repaired	....	....	6
„ cleansed	....	....	68
Refrigerators renovated	....	....	5
Rooms closed	....	....	2
Accumulation of rubbish removed	....	....	2
Water closets—new or repaired	....	....	41
Miscellaneous	....	....	51

MEAT INSPECTION.

The Co-operative Society Abattoir in Sheepen Road is still occupied by the Ministry of Food and all meat is supplied in Colchester and the surrounding area from this abattoir after inspection by the Borough Sanitary Inspectors.

Carcases Inspected and Condemned.

	Cattle excluding Cows.	Cows.	Calves.	Sheep and Lambs.	Pigs.
Number Inspected ...	4,826	697	2,240	6,555	1,081
All diseases except Tuberculosis. Whole carcasses condemned ...	7	6	6	11	25
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned ...	2,055	11	4	42	78
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis ...	42.73%	2.44%	.45%	.8%	9.5%
Tuberculosis only— Whole carcasses condemned ...	33	26	3	—	11
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned ...	789	29	2	—	30
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis ...	17%	7.9%	.22%	—	3.8%

Parts of Carcasses or Organs Condemned.

	Beasts including Cows.	Calves.	Sheep.	Pigs.	Total.
	lbs.	lbs.	lbs.	lbs.	lbs.
Parts of Carcasses ...	3,418	8	110	793	4,329
Organs ..	45,715	44	150	403	46,312

In addition to the above 275 lbs. of Imported Beef and 32 lbs. of Imported Mutton were condemned.

The total weight of meat condemned as unfit for human consumption was:—

45 tons 7 cwts. 2 qrs. 7 lbs.

OTHER FOOD INSPECTION.

Type of Food.	Weight in lbs			
Margarine	3
Butter	59
Cheese	202

<i>Type of Food.</i>		<i>Weight in lbs.</i>
Bacon	....	149
Flour	....	191
Fish	....	2,011
Cereals and Cereal Substitutes	....	1,212
Sausages	....	19
Biscuits	....	30
Luncheon Meat	....	24
Sugar	....	26
Suet	....	26
Corned Beef	....	1,208
Cake	....	194
Dried Fruit	....	147
Brawn	....	41
Ice Cream	....	80
Other Foods	....	23
		<hr/> 5,645 <hr/>

The total weight of meat and other foods listed above unfit for human food and condemned was:—

48 tons 2 cwts. 1 qr. 19 lbs.

In addition the following foods were condemned:—

Tinned Milk	....	505 Tins
Other Tinned Goods	....	1,090 Tins
Packeted Foods	....	229 Pkts.
Bottled Foods	....	184 Bots.
Puddings	....	377
Shell Eggs	....	498
Meat Pies	....	28
Coconuts	....	24
Rabbits	....	46
Wild Ducks	....	7
Teal	....	20
Ice Cream	....	3 Galls.

MILK AND DAIRIES ORDERS AND REGULATIONS.

The inspection of cowsheds and farm dairies is no longer a duty of this Department and no figures are given.

There are 31 dairies on the register and during the year all were surveyed and 172 inspections made. As a result of this survey various improvements were carried out and 3 dairies ceased to handle loose milk and elected to obtain their supplies already bottled.

Milk (Special Designation) (Raw Milk) Regulations, 1949.

Milk (Special Designation) (Pasteurised and Sterilised Milk) Regulations, 1949.

Licences issued for Sale of Graded Milk.

Pasteurised	....	....	....	16
Tuberculin Tested	....	....	....	8
Tuberculin Tested (Bottling)	....	....	....	—
Pasteurised, Producer	....	....	....	2
Supplementary	....	....	....	4

Pasteurised Milk.

During the year 69 samples of pasteurised milk were submitted for examination and of these 62 satisfactorily passed the prescribed tests.

There are now only two pasteurising establishments in the Borough and of the 69 samples taken for examination 43 were from these establishments, the remaining 26 being from milk pasteurised outside the Borough and brought in for retail sale. Of the 7 samples which failed the prescribed tests 6 were obtained from one of the Borough establishments and 1 from a dairy which bottled milk pasteurised elsewhere. The 6 unsatisfactory samples obtained from the local establishment were considered to be due to faults developing in the plant. In November this plant was dismantled and a completely new High Temperature Short Time pasteurisation plant installed.

Milk—Biological Test.

Five samples of milk were taken for submission to the biological test for the presence of the tubercle bacillus. All were from milk sold raw and all were negative.

Food and Drugs Act, 1938.

Samples.	No. of Samples.	Samples below standard.	Nature of Deficiency.
New Milk	40	6	(a) Fat deficient 4 per cent.
Tuberculin Tested Milk...	1		" 6 "
Margarine	6		" 7 "
Butter	6		" 24 "
Cheese	6		" 6 "
Cooking Fat...	6		" 8 "
Tea	6		
Sugar	6		
Milk Chocolate ...	1		
Mustard	1		
Curry Powder ...	3		
Tapioca Flakes ...	1		
Mayonnaise	1		
Tomato Ketchup ...	3		
Salad Cream	2		
Fish Paste	2		
Ox Tongue	1		
Table Jelly	2		
Sweetened Lemonade Powder...	1		
Desiccated Cocoanut ...	1		
White Pepper	1		
Gelatine	1		
Soup	1		
Camphorated Oil ...	1		
Gelatine Crystals ...	3		
Castor Oil	1		
Olive Oil	1		
Mixed Spice... ..	1		
Tincture of Iodine ...	1		
Sulphur Tablets ...	1		
Aspirin	4		
Liquorice Powder ...	2		
P. K. Oil (solid) ...	1		
P. K. Oil (after use) ...	1		
Meat Paste	2		
Chemical Food	3		
Glycerine of Thymol ...	3		
Cooked Beef	1		
Lemon Butter	1		
Malt Vinegar	3		
Ground Almonds ...	3		
Peanut Butter	1		
Ground Nutmegs ...	2		
Pork Pie	1		
Sausages	1		
Cocoanut Ice	1		
	138	6	

(a) Original Samples.

(b) Course of Transit Samples.

(c) Appeal to Cow Samples.

Information concerning the fat deficiency of 24% was delayed in reaching the Department and no action was considered advisable. Follow-up samples were found to be genuine.

Proceedings were taken against a baker for selling a loaf of bread containing a portion of a cigarette. A fine of £5 was imposed.

ICE CREAM (HEAT TREATMENT, ETC.) REGULATIONS, 1947.

The manufacture and sale of ice cream continued to receive attention during the year as indicated hereunder:—

Visits to premises where ice cream is manu- factured or sold	....	....	....	276
Samples taken	....	....	....	117
Results of samples—Grade I	....	....	....	82
" " " " II	....	....	....	21
" " " " III	....	....	....	7
" " " " IV	....	....	....	7

The improvement in the bacteriological condition of ice cream sold in the Borough has continued to be maintained and the percentage of samples falling in the doubtful grades of III and IV is the lowest since sampling was commenced. In 1948 the figure was 54.32% and in 1949 19.20% ; during the year under review it was 11.97%.

It should again be emphasised that the standards upon which these gradings are based are "provisional" and not "statutory". Nevertheless they do provide a useful yard-stick by means of which methods of manufacture and handling may be assessed and it is pleasing to note the continued improvement.

Prevention and Treatment of Tuberculosis.
Section 172, Public Health Act, 1936.

Prevention and Treatment of Blindness.
Section 176, Public Health Act, 1936.

National Assistance Act, 1948.
Section 47.

Action was required under the latter Section only, in one instance.

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of the Borough of Colchester.*

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPT.,
TRINITY STREET.